

# THE LATEST FASHIONS

## FESTIVE for the HOLIDAY CLOTHES the SEASON



TUSCORAH SILK EVENING COAT.



THE OVERSKIRT HAS RETURNED.



DINNER COSTUME BY PERDOUX.



THE VOGUE OF DRAPED SKIRTS

### Yuletide Festivities - Holiday Dressing - Gay Clothes for Occasions - Serviceable Togs for Outdoor Sports - Fashion's Tendencies.

The coming Yuletide and attendant festivities brighten the wearisome days of many a Christmas shopper. Tired minds and weary bodies are forgotten in anticipation of the pleasures of this the greatest holiday of all the year, when the most inconsequential gift brings great joy to loving hearts and the world seems brighter for another Christmas Day.

#### Clothes for Occasions.

There are so many gala occasions during the week from Christmas to New Year's demanding their quota of appropriate costume that one's wardrobe cannot be neglected even in these last days before the holiday when everybody is making a wild, hazardous dash of the Christmas shopping.

As if to remind delinquents of impending parties, balls and dinners, holiday gifts are dividing window space with exquisite dress materials, trimmings and accessories, and the respective departments devoted to woman's apparel display their wares in unusually attractive ways to bring them into prominence. Everything is done to remind one of a Yuletide at one or another of the fashionable resorts and country places where society folk migrate for this mid-winter holiday.

#### Country "Outdoor" Togs.

In a country neighborhood long walks, tennis, diabolo or golf are a part of the holiday gaieties. Relaxation and country air bring back the brightness to the eye and the color to the complexion lost in a maze of Christmas shopping. English tweeds and Scotch serge make serviceable suits for the country sojourner. With all their serviceability they are exceedingly smart, and one may look as chic on a country road in a costume of such fabric as on the avenue in more pretentious apparel.

Cross-country walking, hunting and like sports of devices to outdoor winter life demand a very simple wardrobe. A suit, loose fitting coat suit in some dark tone, contrasting not too markedly with

its surroundings, supplemented with simple headwear, stout footwear and practical accessories, denote the good taste of the wearer and the present trend of fashion. An additional warm worsted or fur coat and one is ready for the rigors of a winter's auto ride.

#### The Gay Clothes.

But we must get on to the gay clothes with which our story deals—exquisite creations for a ballroom existence, the opera, dinners, and informal entertainments—marvelous silks and satins, laces and nets, lustrous landshowns and clinging crepes, soft chiffons and alluring scintillating pailletted nets that quiver and glitter with the graceful movements of their wearers. These and quantities of beautiful trimmings and accessories will elbow each other at Yuletide in Northern drawing rooms and on Southern verandas.

#### Fashions Made at the Horse Show.

Since the Horse Show and the opening of Grand Opera, several style features which before hung in midair as it were, have descended to become important items of midwinter fashions. The tunic skirt, for instance, received undoubted approval at the Horse Show in tailored suits as well as costumes of a dressy type. In the tailored skirt the tunic or overskirt was merely simulated with a band of the material or velvet. The point front and back is a favored shaping of this new skirt, so also is that which is very short at one side and slants diagonally across the front of the foundation skirt to the hem on the opposite side.

#### The Empire Remains.

While the empire is not dominating winter modes, it is seen to some extent in elaborate dressing. To the figure that can carry this style of costume it is more than becoming—it is highly artistic—but few of our American women are hipless and slinky enough to carry this type of dress well.

One French maker modifies his models to conform to the American figure. He has

much of the American trade in Paris, and though his French blood may revolt at the despoiling of a mode made famous by a one-time ruler of his own dear France, his commercial instinct is strong enough to overcome his sentiment.

Copenhagen blue is the color of the most attractive of his productions this year. The skirt, gathered into the waistband, is formed of panels of dyed Maltese lace and chiffon velvet. Below the knees the panels are met by a deep velvet facing beaded with heavy chenille embroideries, which gives a bounce effect. The bodice shows the material swathed crosswise on a light-fitting tulle lining and shoulder bands of embroidered velvet and byzantine embroideries in rich oriental colorings, which describe the lines of an Elton jacket in the front and an elongated yoke in the back. A deep chemise of white lace and tucked net corresponding with the undersleeves. The empire tendency is revealed in the back, where the waist line is lifted about 2½ inches above the normal.

#### Sleeves.

A running mate to the tunic are the new long sleeves, monosquaire they are called, for the reason that they wrinkle on the arm like the mosquito-netting glove and point over the hand to the knuckle in many instances. This is another case of fashion extremes. We have gone from the short sleeve to the very long arm covering in a twinkling.

#### The Christmas Dinner Gown.

Christmas dinner is, of course, the occasion of Yuletide, and, naturally, every-

one tries to look her best. The young people wear dainty white and light colored frocks, which are charming against the rich, dark background of Christmas greens. Mother, to whom belongs much of the credit for the holiday successes and pleasures, is wearing darker-toned costumes this year. Black and white is especially good style and always becoming to matrons. Charming results are possible with sheer laces, nets, chiffons and marquisettes over foundations of white silk with trimmings of beautiful white laces.

#### Elaborate Materials and Their Simple Uses.

While fashion imposes certain restrictions on our street clothes, she allows us the extreme of latitude in dressy costumes. Nothing is too beautiful to adorn the graceful figures of the fair sex, but the more beautiful the material the less elaborate the design of the costume, until one marvels at the art expressed in a gown of chiffon satin with a perfectly plain skirt, long and clinging, and a bodice to which the material is simply swathed around the figure and trimmed with a bit of rare lace and pailletted passementerie. Another expression of simplicity in dressy costumes is a reception toilette of taupe-colored shantung silk, one of the new rough weaves, which are such high style this winter. The long skirt is puckered in the center-front like Paquin's midwinter model, and the simple bodice is draped to accord with the skirt. Its only trimming is a square chemise of lace with a lingerie jabot. The simple joining of the waist and skirt, without a suggestion of trimming, and the center front seam give this gown a decided princess effect.

continuing the skirt seam give this gown a decided princess effect.

#### Giving to the Opera.

If the opera is included in the holiday schedule of those whose Christmas is to be spent in town, one must make preparations beyond a handsome dinner gown, which serves the dual use as dinner and church costume. Opera toilettes are decolette and as distinctive in both material and design as one's purse can afford.

Depleted purses at this time of the year are not unusual, but careful management of a dress allowance, in all probability robbed to some extent for the Christmas-gift shopping, will take one through to Yuletide sartorial successes.

#### Care of Floors.

How to care for floors and keep them in good condition is often a difficult problem for the housekeeper, but if the floor is properly treated and gone over a couple of times a year, it is little trouble to keep it in excellent condition. A treatment to be recommended and which has stood the test of experience is this—first wash the floor well and let it dry. Then go over it with a cloth dipped from time to time in coal oil, which both cleanses and penetrates the floor so that loss of the polished oil is required. The boiled oil finish should then be prepared. To make this take two quarts of boiled oil, put beeswax the size of half an egg and melt together until melted, and thoroughly mixed. Care should be taken in doing this, as both materials are inflammable. While the oil is still warm, apply with a wide paint brush.

### Christmas Shopping Hints.

"Have You Noticed the children's millinery this season?" queried the fond mother of a family of three rosy-cheeked little maids. Really, I never saw such fascinating bonnets as they are showing this year. At its yesterday I could scarcely tear myself away from those quaint little Shaker bonnets, which the saleslady told me were the newest thing. One, in particular, had a white felt crown, with a pokey brim of white silk, faced with shirred white chiffon. But that was not all. Where the ties fastened to the bonnet were rosettes of ribbon, centered with pink roses. Another was very similar and had a short white ostrich plume, drooping downward so as to almost rest on the baby's shoulder. They are making these Shaker bonnets, I am told, of the same material as the coat, and facing the inside with white.

A Little Way from the bonnet case was another which held "everything for the baby." And here it was that the writer saw the cunningest knitted jackets in white wool, with collar and cuffs of blue or pink. But the feature of these little jackets was the pointed hood to be slipped over the tiny unprotected head when encountering sudden draughts, thus doing away with the shawl, which always

insists on slipping off the very smooth little head.

When You Buy your ribbon for Christmas packages this year be sure you get the Teddy bear holly kind. This is the very latest thing in ribbon. It comes in all widths, like every other kind of ribbon, and you can also use it for making fancy articles, such as workbags and other novelties, for Christmas giving. The holly in natural green and red, on a white satin surface, and the "tiny Teddies" a familiar brown.

Then There Are the Teddy Bear charms, which will delight the girl with a fad for bangle bracelets, or the little man who has passed the Teddy bear toy age and expects a watch and chain from Santa Claus this Christmas. They come in gold and silver, and have tiny jeweled eyes, and the legs are movable, like the cloth Teddies that the little tots love so well.

A Practical little novelty for mind's purse is a tiny mirror, about two and a half inches in diameter, set in a frame of gilt or silver and having a handle shaped so that it can be used as a glove button. Since the majority of women's gloves are buttoned nowadays, this would prove a very useful, as well as pretty little, present for anyone of the fair sex.

### Training German Housewives.

The careful and elaborate training given German girls of the better classes (and nobility and aristocracy is not meant exclusively by that term) is something to cause the statesmen in the United States to pause and ponder. Undoubtedly the German girls are receiving more scientific handling during their educational period than those of any other nation. The Germans have approached this important problem of modern progress from a most intelligent standpoint.

These girls usually range between sixteen and twenty-two years of age and their last three years are understood to be in preparation for marriage. The Germans figured that the vast majority of happy and therefore successful women were married women. In Germany and elsewhere the most important economic and human duties of women were as wives first and afterwards as intelligent careful trainers of the future workers and thinkers of the nation.

Most of the girls are splendid musicians. They speak English and French as well as German. They are given a full course in social etiquette otherwise known as the foundation for good manners and a pleasing appearance calculated to make a good first impression. They study French and English, and other writings carefully and under level headed instructors. Shyness they also read carefully and intelligently. In needlework they are forced to become practical workers and are taught to mend and fix various materials so that they can get the most out of such wearing apparel as their future husbands may be able to afford. The German maidens are taught to

### Watch Your Piano.

A piano is a good instrument is very sensitive to heat, cold and damp. It must not be put too near a fire or the wooden parts will show ill effects. It must not be near an open window during damp weather or the wire strings will soon show deterioration. Mould comes if it is left long in a damp atmosphere. Don't put the piano close against the wall. It will rot its tone a great deal. Keep the piano closed when not used or it will soon lose its sonorous qualities. Dust the keys with a soft silk handkerchief and to which them use a little lemon juice. Keep the dust from between the keys.